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Wednesday, May 12, 2010

In The News

Lab Scientist Pens New York Times Op- Ed on Gulf Spill



Terry Hazen of the Earth Sciences Division was one five experts sought out by the Op-Ed editors of the *New York Times* to offer advice on what should be done to clean up the Deepwater Horizon oil spill that is threatening coastal areas of the Gulf of Mexico. Hazen, a microbial ecologist, advocates the use of absorbent materials, such as cellulose fibers, that can soak up oil. The soaked up oil can then be compressed into blocks for burning or, better still, fed to microbes. Go [here](#) to read the Op-Ed piece, and [here](#) for more on Hazen's research.



Research: Recovery Act Grants Stimulate Renewable Energy Capacity, Jobs

The Section 1603 Treasury cash grant program of the Recovery Act appears to have stimulated incremental renewable power capacity additions in 2009, thereby supporting U.S.-based renewable energy jobs, according to a new report by researchers in the Lab's Environmental Energy Technologies Division. [More>](#)

Special Event: Women Scientist and Engineer Council Luncheon on May 21

The next Women Scientist and Engineer Council Luncheon seminar takes place Friday, May 21, in Perseverance Hall (Bldg. 54-130), from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. The featured speaker is **Odelle Hadley**, a postdoc in the Environmental Energy Technologies Division.

Hadley will discuss her work on the quantification of black carbon and other pollutants from a traditional three-stone fire and the Berkeley-Darfur Stove, and the effect of black carbon aerosol on snow albedo. Lunch will be provided. Contact **Veronica Nero** (x7443) for more information.



Shuttle Bus: Blue Route Service Now Ends Earlier Each Day

Service along the [Blue Route](#) will now end earlier each day, with the last bus departing from Building 62 at 7 p.m. (previously 7:30 p.m.), and Building 65 uphill at 7:10 p.m. (previously 7:40 p.m.) and at 7 p.m. downhill. The after-hours [taxi service](#) is available starting at 7:30 p.m. to assist passengers with transportation when the bus service has stopped.

EETD: Lecture Tomorrow on Energy Efficiency Efforts in India

Ajay Mathur, director general of India's Bureau of Energy Efficiency and a member of the Prime Minister's Council on Climate Change, will deliver the next Environmental Energy Technologies Division Distinguished Lecture tomorrow at 11 a.m. in the Building 66



Auditorium. His talk, titled "Energy Efficiency in India: Challenges and Initiatives," will cover the challenges and opportunities confronting India as it pursues policies to unlock the full potential of energy efficiency in the country. [More>](#)



***Special Event:* Tomorrow is Bike to Work Day; Ride Safely**

Tomorrow is the annual [Bike to Work Day](#) celebration, when employees are encouraged to try a two-wheeled commute to their jobs. The event was created to help promote a healthier lifestyle and reduce the environmental impact caused by cars. Since the Lab is home to many intimidating hills, staff can ride to [shuttle bus stops](#) in downtown Berkeley and load their bikes on racks. Riders can stop by one of many area [energizer stations](#) on their way in, and use [Google maps](#) to determine routes. Participants should follow all [bicycle safety guidelines](#), including wearing helmets (required) and reflective materials, obeying traffic signals and stop signs, and drivers should exercise caution. Visit the Lab's Bicycle Coalition [website](#) for information on their efforts to promote riding to work, including a list of onsite shower facilities.

*Today at Berkeley Lab encourages [feedback and story ideas](#)
Deadline for [submissions](#) is 10 a.m. the day prior to publication
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